



## NEWS RELEASE

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Flood Authority Chair & Grays  
Harbor County Commissioner

*For immediate release*  
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### Public Meetings on Reducing Flooding throughout the Chehalis River Basin

CENTRALIA—The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority is holding three public meetings in October to talk about plans to form a regional flood district as a way to comprehensively address chronic flooding in Grays Harbor, Lewis and Thurston counties. Flood Authority members and the consultants assisting with the district formation process will present information about flood district formation and to get feedback on district formation from the public. The meetings will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at each location. There will be a presentation at 6 p.m. each evening with an informal open house both before and after the presentation.

#### **Public meeting details**

Public meetings will be held:

- Thursday, October 14 at Swede Hall on 18543 Albany Street SW in Rochester
- Monday, October 18 at City Hall on 112 N. Main Street in Montesano
- Thursday, October 28 at the Centralia Middle School on 901 Johnson Road in Centralia

The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority was formed in April of 2008 and consists of officials from jurisdictions in the Basin that are affected by flooding. They are a temporary organization charged with developing a long-term flood mitigation plan and the means to carry it out. Terry Willis, chair of the Flood Authority and a Grays Harbor County Commissioner, says that “The Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority is working on flood hazard management from a basin-wide perspective. Our goal is to provide an open forum so cities, towns, counties and the Tribe can work together effectively to reduce flood damage throughout the region. A Multi-County Flood District will allow us to take a cooperative and focused approach to a problem that affects us all.”

The Flood Authority has provisionally agreed that forming a Multi-County Flood Control Zone District is the most effective means to address flooding. In December 2010 they will make a formal recommendation to the County Commissioners from Grays Harbor, Lewis, and Thurston counties who must approve any recommendation the Flood Authority makes on flood district formation. The Flood Authority is holding these public meetings prior to making any recommendation to the County Commissioners.

For more information, visit:

<http://lewiscountywa.gov/communitydevelopment/chehalis-river-basin-flood-authority>

You can also email us at [info@chehalisriverbasin.org](mailto:info@chehalisriverbasin.org)

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